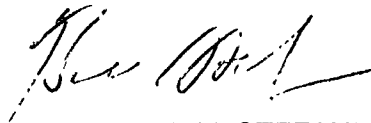


**BOOKMAKERS ACT 1985**

**NO. 68 OF 1997**

Pursuant to Section 39B (2) of the *Bookmakers Act 1985*, I REVOKE Determination No. 157 of 1995 notified in Gazette No S279 of 6 November 1995, and DETERMINE that the directions for the operation of the sports betting venue at the Canberra Racecourse shall be as set out in the attached schedule.

Dated this *10th* day of *April* 1997



**BILL STEFANIAK**  
Minister for Sport and Recreation

## **OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SPORTS BETTING VENUE**

**Definitions** In these directions:-

"Auditorium Manager" means the Chief Executive of the ACT Racing Club

"sports bookmaker" means an individual bookmaker, syndicate or company granted a sports betting licence under Section 39G of the *Bookmakers Act 1985* (the Act).

### **1 Hours of betting**

Sports bookmakers may accept bets on approved sports betting events as follows:-

- 1.1 24 hours per day, Monday to Sunday; and
- 1.2 At the discretion of the Auditorium Manager, sports bookmakers may be required to provide a face to face betting service in the determined sports betting venue for a specified period.

### **2 Hours of attendance**

- 2.1 At all times when betting transactions are being conducted, each sports bookmaker must attend at the sports betting venue either by way of an agent who holds a sports betting agent's licence, or:
  - (a) in the case of an individual bookmaker - in person,
  - (b) in the case of a syndicate - by a member of the syndicate; or
  - (c) in the case of a company - by a director who holds a bookmakers standing licence.

### **3 Restrictions**

- 3.1 The following restriction applies to betting on racing events:-
  - 3.1.1 On a day when there is a race meeting being conducted by the ACT Racing Club or by the Queanbeyan Racing Club, sports bookmakers are not permitted to accept face-to-face bets from a member of the public, on any thoroughbred, harness or greyhound event.
- 3.2 The above restriction does not apply to sports bookmakers betting back within the betting auditorium or to licensed bookmakers fielding at ACT Racing Club meetings betting back with sports bookmakers.

This provision is designed to ensure that an appropriate level of service is provided to punters.

In accordance with the minimum bet levels applying to on-course telephone betting for bookmakers, telephone bets received by licensed sports betting bookmakers on thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing events have a minimum bet of \$100.00 or for the bookmaker to lose a minimum of \$1,000.00. These limits are consistent with those applying to comparable betting auditoria in Adelaide and Darwin

In addition, this part provides that the minimum bet levels do not apply to pre-post betting. This arrangement is also consistent with interstate practice and ensures that the sports bookmakers operating at the Canberra sports betting auditorium are not placed at a competitive disadvantage.

Part D outlines the approved methods of accepting sports betting transactions. The approved methods are by face-to-face in the approved sports betting venue, by telephone, by facsimile or via the Internet. The Determination issued under Section 39(B)(1) provides that all telephone calls into and out of the sports betting venue are recorded on the approved voice recording equipment. The additional restrictions in respect of bets transmitted by facsimile and the Internet provide a reasonable level of control to ensure that all bets are appropriately confirmed and recorded, the correct licence fee is paid and adequate details are retained in the event of a dispute.

Part E sets out the revised arrangements for the management of funds deposited by clients. Determination No 158 of 1995 required sports bookmakers to separately manage the proceeds of cash bets accepted on wagers where the outcome is not decided for a period exceeding twenty eight days from the date of making the bet.

Upon review, it was considered that these earlier arrangements did not provide adequate safeguards for moneys deposited by punters against which all betting transactions were made. Accordingly, the revised arrangement requires sports bookmakers to separately maintain all funds deposited by clients.

Part F outlines the requirements for sports bookmakers to maintain records of bets and provide monthly reports to the Registrar of Bookmakers.

**3.3 Sports bookmakers are permitted to accept telephone, facsimile or Internet bet transactions on thoroughbred, harness or greyhound events during this time.**

**4 Telecommunications Equipment**

**4.1 Sports bookmakers shall utilise the voice telecommunications equipment made available through the ACT Government InTACT voice network.**

**4.1.1 This restriction does not apply to data services, ISDN lines and other non-voice telecommunication services.**

**4.2 Sports bookmakers shall enter into a separate agreement with InTACT. This agreement shall cover appropriate charging mechanisms and indemnity provisions.**

**4.3 The following restrictions shall apply to the use of telecommunications equipment:-**

**4.3.1 All incoming and outgoing calls will be automatically recorded on the approved voice recording equipment.**

**4.3.2 No betting transactions, including bet backs are to be undertaken using the telecommunications equipment detailed in 4.1 1.**

**4.3.3 In establishing accounts with clients or when accepting bets from new clients, bookmakers shall inform punters that all conversations are recorded.**

**4.5 The following restriction apply to other telecommunications equipment in the approved sports betting venue:-**

**4.5.1 Sports bookmakers, agents of sports bookmakers or other employees of sports bookmakers are not permitted to undertake betting transactions, including bet backs, using any other telecommunications device within the approved sports betting venue; and**

**4.5.2 Sports bookmakers, agents of sports bookmakers or other employees of sports bookmakers are not permitted to undertake betting transactions, including bet backs, using any other telecommunications equipment within the premises of the ACT Racing Club.**

## 5 Ticketing

- 5.1 In respect of face-to-face bets, sports bookmakers are required to issue a ticket to a punter in a form that clearly displays the name of the bookmaker, the details of the bet, the amount of the bet and the amount to be won by the punter.
- 5.2 In the case of bets on thoroughbred, harness or greyhound events, the nature of the bet - Win only, Each Way, Place only, Double or Quinella is to be clearly indicated.
- 5.3 Tickets are to be in a form that will ensure that the details printed on the ticket will not deteriorate, fade or become unreadable over the period of the contingency or within a period of 28 days thereafter.
- 5.4 Thermal ticket printers are not permitted to be used in the approved sports betting venue.

## 6 Lost tickets

- 6.1 In the event that a punter loses a sports betting ticket, the sports bookmaker shall, in the first instance, endeavour to determine from the betting records of the bookmaker the identity of the punter who made the bet in question.
- 6.2 If the bookmaker is unable to identify the transaction and/or the punter, the details of the bet and the name of the bookmaker concerned is to be forwarded to the following:-

Registrar of Bookmakers  
ACT Bureau of Sport, Recreation and Racing  
PO Box 1156  
TUGGERANONG ACT 2901

- 6.3 On receipt of the relevant information, the matter shall be investigated and appropriate follow up action initiated.

## 7 Risk Management

- 7.1 In order to manage risk associated with the conduct of sports betting, sports bookmakers are permitted to lay off as follows:-
  - 7.1.1 For exposures associated with **thoroughbred, harness or greyhound** event - laying off is permitted with any other bookmaker fielding in **Australia** who is licensed to accept bets of the relevant kind;

7.1.2 For exposures associated with any other approved sports betting event, laying off is permitted to any other bookmaker who is licensed to accept bets of the relevant kind;

7.2 Sports bookmakers shall take all steps possible to lay-off with other licensed bookmakers within the approved sports betting venue before calling outside the venue; and

## 8 Audit and Financial Arrangements

8.1 The financial year for the sports betting service shall be 1 July to 30 June each year.

8.2 By 30 September each year, sports bookmakers shall provide annual financial statements to the Registrar of Bookmakers.

8.2.1 In the case of an individual bookmaker who holds a sports bookmakers licence, a statement detailing the trading position of the sports betting business for the year ending 30 June and prepared and certified by a Chartered Accountant, is required

8.2.2 In the case of a syndicate of bookmakers who hold a sports bookmakers licence, a statement detailing the trading position of the sports betting business for the year ending 30 June and prepared and certified by a Chartered Accountant, is required.

8.2.3 In the case of a company that holds a sports bookmakers licence, an audited financial statement for the company for the year ending 30 June is required.

## 9 Calculation of Exchange Rates

9.1 Where, during any month, bets are accepted in a currency other than Australian dollars, for the purpose of determining the appropriate exchange rate, sports bookmakers shall record the appropriate exchange rate, for each currency, as published each Wednesday in the Australian Financial Review.

9.2 At the end of each month, in respect of each currency, sports bookmakers shall add the exchange rates together and divide by the number of Wednesdays in the month to obtain an average exchange rate for each currency for the month

9.3 Sports bookmakers shall apply the average exchange rate, as determined above, to the total amount of bets accepted in the month in each currency, to obtain an Australian dollar equivalent of bets accepted.

- 9.4 In determining the level of monthly licence fee payment, in accordance with paragraph 55(1)(a) and section 39K of the Act, the appropriate rate shall be applied to the Australian Dollar equivalent as calculated at 9.3.
- 9.5 Evidence of the exchange rate calculations shall be submitted to the Registrar of Bookmakers each month, along with the monthly return as defined under section 39C(1) of the Act.
- 9.6 This section does not apply to the calculation of the amount payable to any winner outside Australia. Overseas winners shall be paid in their local currency according to the stated odds.
- 10 Auditorium Manager
- 10.1 The Auditorium Manager is responsible for the administration of the security guarantee arrangements established by the sports bookmakers.
- 10.2 Sports bookmakers are subject to the guarantee arrangements determined by the Bookmakers Licensing Committee. The Auditorium Manager does not guarantee the performance or the liabilities of licensed sports bookmakers.
- 10.3 The Auditorium Manager shall provide, on a monthly basis, a report detailing the operations of the approved sports betting venue.
- 10.4 The Report shall be forwarded to the Registrar of Bookmakers.
- 10.5 The report shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement for the Administration of the Sports Betting Auditorium between the Auditorium Manager and the Bureau of Sport, Recreation and Racing.
- 11 Financial arrangements
- 11.1 Sports bookmakers shall pay the Auditorium Manager a fee equivalent to an agreed rent per square metre of space occupied at the approved sports betting venue at the Canberra Racecourse.
- 11.2 Sports bookmakers shall pay the Auditorium Manager an amount equivalent to an agreed percentage of turnover, as a management fee.
- 11.3 Sports bookmakers who, in the normal course of their business, use the National Bookmakers Pricing Service shall pay the Auditorium Manager a fee equivalent to an equal share of the cost of access to of the National Bookmakers Pricing Service, based on the number of users of the service.

- 11.4 The above fees are payable on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month, or next working day, following the month for which the amount was determined.
- 11.5 In the event that an appropriate fee, as provided by parts 11.1, 11.2 or 11.3, cannot be agreed between the Auditorium Manager and the sports bookmakers, the Registrar of Bookmakers shall determine an appropriate fee.
- 11.6 Decisions of the Registrar of Bookmakers shall be binding on the sports bookmakers and the Auditorium Manager.